

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

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on Nov 18, 2002
STAAS & HALSEY
By: Jeanne Halsey
Date: Nov 18, 2002



Docket No.: 826.1517

#15D
B1
12/3/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Minoru KURIKI, et al.

Serial No. 09/189,410

Group Art Unit: 2154

Confirmation No. 5479

Filed: November 10, 1998

Examiner: A. Caldwell

For: MESSAGE PROCESSING DEVICE, MESSAGE MANAGEMENT METHOD AND STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING MESSAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 16, 2002, and having a period for response set to expire on October 16, 2002. A Petition for a one-month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to Saturday November 16, 2002.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claim 10.

Please AMEND and ADD to the claims as follows:

Sub F1
1. (AS THREE TIMES AMENDED) A message processing apparatus connected to a plurality of terminal apparatuses via a network, comprising:

a preparation unit preparing a receiver state list containing names of a plurality of receivers, each receiver having received an interpersonal message relating to a business activity, the receiver state list also containing individual states of each of the respective receivers, each individual state being mutually associated with the name of a corresponding receiver, where each individual state of each receiver indicates a status of that receiver's activity regarding the business activity, and where the indicating is based on responses received from

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